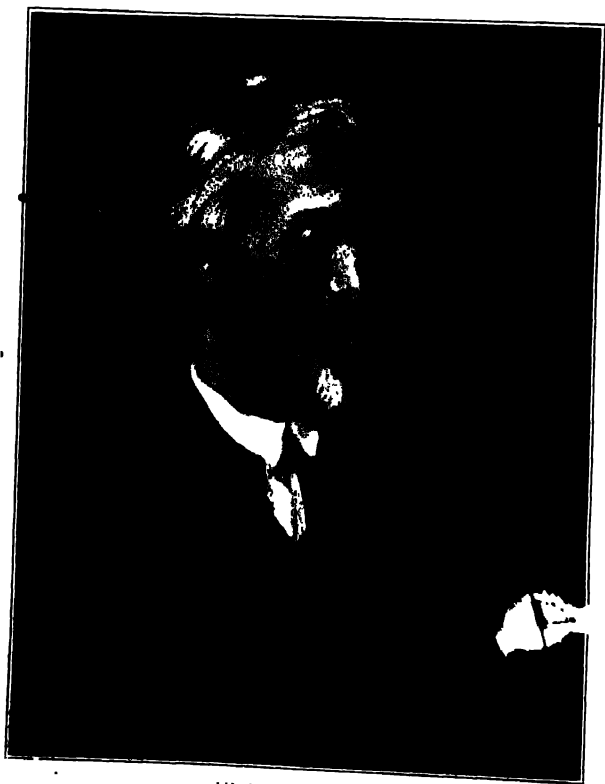


SIR JOHN LUBBOCK'S
HUNDRED BOOKS

CARLYLE'S

FRENCH REVOLUTION



THOMAS CARLYLE

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Sir John Lubbock's Hundred Books

THE
FRENCH REVOLUTION

A HISTORY

BY

THOMAS CARLYLE

Μεγά ο ἀγὼν ἔστι, θεῖον γὰρ ἔργον· ὑπὲρ βασιλείας, ὑπὲρ ἐλευθερίας·
ὑπὲρ εὐροίας, ὑπὲρ ἀταραξίας. —AURIANUS.

Δόγμα γὰρ αὐτῶν τίς μεταβάλλει· χωρὶς δὲ δογματίων μεταβολῆς, τί
ἄλλο ἢ δουλεία στενόντων καὶ τείθεσθαι προσποιουμένων; ANTONINUS.

2672
D.2.2

London and New York
GEORGE ROUTLEDGE AND SONS
LIMITED

THE BASTILLE

Diesem Knospe verleihe' ich das Pand, den Hammer dem Herrlichen.
Und dem Volke das Blech, das in der Mitte sich krümmt.
Wehe dem armen Volk, wenn nur willkürliche Schläge
Ungewiß treffen, und nie fertig der Kessel erscheint!

Goethe.

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who is not a cheat?

THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.

VOL. I.—THE BASTILLE.

BOOK FIRST.

CHAPTER I.

LOUIS THE WELL-BELOVED.

PRESIDENT HENAULT, remarking on royal Surnames of Honour how difficult it often is to ascertain not only why, but even when, they were conferred, takes occasion in his sleek official way, to make a philosophical reflection. 'The Surname of *Bien-aimé* (Well-beloved),' says he, 'which Louis XV. bears, will not leave posterity in the same doubt. This Prince, in the year 1744, while hastening from one end of his kingdom to the other, and suspending his conquests in Flanders that he might fly to the assistance of Alsace, was arrested at Metz by a malady which threatened to cut short his days. At the news of this, Paris, all in terror, seemed a city taken by storm: the churches resounded with supplications and groans; the prayers of priests and people were every moment interrupted by the sobs: and it was from an interest so dear and tender that the surname of *Bien-aimé* fashioned itself, a title higher still than all the rest which this great Prince has earned.*

So stands it written; in lasting memorial of that year 1744. Thirty other years have come and gone; and 'this great Prince' again lies sick; but in how altered circumstances now! Churches resound not with excessive groanings; Paris is sturdily calm;

* *Abbrégé Chronologique de l'Histoire de France* (Paris, 1775) p. 96.